

## NO MUTILATION.

Gen. Lyon's Body Was Treated With the Utmost Respect.

Graphic Sketch of Wilson Creek Events by an Eye-Witness.

Maj. C. C. Rainwater Refutes a Cruel and Malicious Falsehood.

Of late the charge that the body of Gen. Lyon was treated with indignity by the confederates at Oak Hill has been renewed in communications to the newspapers, to the great indignation of men who, wearing the gray, had the fortune to meet that gallant officer in battle. One of these, now a prominent and respected citizen of St. Louis, sends a communication to the Republican calling on Maj. C. C. Rainwater, of the firm of Rainwater, Boogher & Co., as an eye-witness, present when the body was found, and as one of the party which escorted it to Springfield, to refute the slander. On the hint thus given, a Republican reporter called on Maj. Rainwater yesterday and induced him to go over again the exciting events of that exciting time. He begged to be excused from reciting the principal events of the battle, on the ground that they were well known, but at the reporters request sketched the scenes as they recurred to him, detailing a number of those incidents which, though really the most interesting part of history, seldom find their way into the books.

"It is a long time ago," said he, "and though as these things come back to me they seem clear, yet I am not willing to go on record as being minutely exact in my memory of them. Even in events which occurred three weeks or a month ago, you may take the stories of the different eye-witnesses and find in them great differences, while all may, perhaps, be true the seeming discrepancies arising from the one observer seeing what the others failed to see. As to the treatment of Gen. Lyon's body, however, there can be only one true story, and if you think it of interest to the public, I will give my recollection of it with pleasure.

**THE BATTLE OF OAK HILL.**  
As the confederates called it; or Willson's Creek, as it was named by the federals, and as I believe it was generally known in the histories, occurred on the 10th of August, 1861. Until a few days before that I had been a lieutenant in the Warsaw Grays, Capt. O'Kane's company, which figured in the bloody fight at Cole Camp. I had just been made a captain in Gen. Weightman's brigade. We were camped along both sides of Willson's creek, during the night which preceded the battle it had been the intention to surprise the federals. It commenced raining, however, and as the confederates were poorly armed—some few of them having flint-lock guns—and as many of them carried their ammunition in their pockets, the rain was calculated to make their arms useless. So the order was given to lie on the arms, and from hour to hour we waited for it to cease raining; the picket had been withdrawn in the expectation of the march and we had nothing but a camp guard, when just at daybreak the federals attacked on both sides the creek. I carried the news from Gen. Price to Gen. Weightman that we were surrounded. Weightman was a brave and gallant officer, but a peculiar man. He had a small tent made of blue and white striped cloth, and I found him in it on his knees reading a prayer book. I was greatly impressed at the time, for I had been reared a country boy in a region where there were few or no members of the denominations which use written prayers. When I announced to him that we were attacked he rose from his knees commenced swearing. I never heard a man swear with such volubility and fluency in all my life before or since as he did then. Poor fellow, he died fighting bravely a few hours afterwards.

"When the attack had fairly opened I led the Warsaw Greys to reinforce Capt. Cockerill, who was trying to lead his company up the bank of the creek to attack the federals on the other side. He was in front

waving a long horse-pistol and yelling for the men to follow. Time and again he led them up, but as they reached the top of the low bank they were exposed to a fearful fire of musketry from the federals who had taken up position on the other side, and time and again they gave back. They followed him finally, however, in spite of the fire getting up the bank some way, I don't know how. The creek at that point is very crooked, and in some of its meanderings is not more than two hundred yards from Bloody Hill, where the fiercest fight of the day occurred. It was over about the middle of the afternoon. I was searching on the hill among the dead and wounded looking for my own friends. Near the crest where the federals had made their last stand I saw a dapple grey horse dead, which a federal soldier said was Gen. Lyon's, and thirty or forty feet away the general's body was found. He had been killed in the last charge, and many recognized the dapple grey horse as that ridden by the officer who had been everywhere up and down the line rallying the men. He was shot through the body. I believe twice, though I did not examine the wounds. His dress I recollect well. He wore a suit of citizen's clothing, complete, except the coat, which was gray with dust and age. The only insignia of rank was a small gold cord around his hat. His hair was iron-gray, and chin whiskers and mustache. No indignity whatever was offered to the body, for the confederates treated it with the respect due to a man who had fought hard and.

### DIED BRAVELY.

His clothing was not touched, but I saw some of the men cutting hairs from the mane and tail of his horse and putting them in their hats. A guard was placed around the body, and it was removed to a tent near Gen. Rame's headquarters on Willson's creek. Gen. Price issued an order and a detail of men removed to Springfield, a few miles away, under escort, and as during the first years of the war discipline was lax, every man doing as he pleased to a great extent, I fell in with the flag of truce party which went with it. My recollection is that we met a federal flag of truce and that the party with it took charge of the ambulance containing the remains. At Springfield the body was placed in a store on the public square and that is the last I know of it personally, though I was told that Mrs. John S. Phelps sent for it and that it was buried in Gov. Phelps' yard. I do not recollect who was in command of our escort, but I believe it was Maj. Gen. Elgin of Geo. Price's staff. I was in many battles after that, but I never saw one so desperate and bloody as Oak Hill was while it was led."

### Gov. Stevens' Will.

From an Atlanta Special.  
Gov. Stephens made his will some time ago. He leaves \$10,000 in money to the children of his late brother, Judge Stephens, and the rest of his estate, bearing a few minor bequests, to his nephew, John A. Stephens. What his estate will foot up depends largely on the sale of his new "History of the United States," and his new book is selling well. Above his bequests his estate will probably pay \$10,000.

### Gov. Stephens Last Work.

From an Atlanta Special.  
Wednesday afternoon a petition for pardon came up for his action. He had examined it before. As he was about to sign it Secretary Seidell said: "Governor, perhaps we had better delay this matter a few days."

Mr. Stephens replied: "I know very well what I am doing," and signed the pardon. This was his last official act.

In the prosecution of a feud between two closely related families in Livingston county last week, Mr. Jack Buckner was shot and mortally wounded by Charles Hodges, son of Thomas D. Hodges, a neighbor and relative of Buckner's, and after committing the deed young Hodges fled the country.

### Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue and authority of a general execution, issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Cass county, Missouri, returnable at the March term, of said court, and to me directed in favor of Sylvester Miller, Johnson G. White and Jonathan Street, Trustees of the Town of Osage, LaSalle county, Illinois, and against J. W. Graham and Cyrus Reed, I have levied and seized upon all the right, title interest and claim of the said defendant Cyrus Reed, of, in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bates county, Missouri, to-wit:

Lot seven in block fifty in the town of Rich Hill, Bates county, Missouri, and I will on

### Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue and authority of a general execution, issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Bates county, Missouri, returnable at the March term, of said court, and to me directed in favor of Butler National Bank, and against G. W. Maddox, et al. I have levied and seized upon all the right, title, interest and claim of the said defendant G. W. Maddox, of, in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bates county, Missouri, to-wit:

The southeast quarter of section 33, township 40, range 32, in Bates county, Missouri, and I will on

### Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue and authority of a transcript execution, issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Bates county, Missouri, returnable at the March term, of said court, and to me directed in favor of Samuel Fickes, and against A. D. Jones, I have levied and seized upon all the right, title, interest and claim of the said defendant of, in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bates county, Missouri, to-wit:

Wednesday, March 21st, 1883, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, at the east front door of the court house, in the city of Butler, Bates county, Missouri, sell the same, or so much thereof as may be required, at public vendue, to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said execution and costs.

### Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue and authority of a transcript execution, issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Bates county, Missouri, returnable at the March term of said court, and to me directed in favor of James P. Biggs and against B. F. Sellers, I have levied and seized upon all the right, title, interest and claim of the said defendant, of, in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bates county, Missouri, to-wit:

Beginning at a point 30 feet south of a lime stone which is the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-two, township 40, range 31, and running thence south 165 1/4 feet to a point, and thence west 80 feet to a point, and thence north 166 1/4 feet and thence in a direct line to the place of beginning. And I will on

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### Final Settlement Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administrator, of the estate of Henry Cope, deceased, will make final settlement of her accounts with said estate as such administrator, at the next term of the Probate court of Bates county, Missouri, to be held at the court house in Butler in said county on the 7th day of May A. D. 1883.

12-41 Annie M. Cope, adm'r.

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